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Assistant Director for Operations

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Chief, Foreign Documents Division

Comments on [] Suggestion for the Consolidation
of German Press Scrutiny Activities

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1. Present activities of the Press Scrutiny Section of the German Bureau, FBIS, could be profitably expanded to provide FDD with a product readily usable in its program for periodic reporting from East and West German newspapers.

2. Expansion of the Press Scrutiny Section activity should be in the direction of more complete coverage and reporting of economic and scientific items. Specific items of interest in these fields can be forwarded when final arrangements are made.

3. Unedited translations, extracts, and summaries pouched to FDD with the original newspapers or clippings as suggested by [] could be processed and disseminated by FDD.

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4. In the event that DD/P should not approve continuation of the Press Scrutiny Project after 1 July 1955, it would be necessary to re-examine the program of that activity with a view toward closer alignment with the FDD program.

5. Security would probably be increased by expanding the project's activities to include FDD needs since intelligence targets would be harder to detect in the enlarged list of subject categories for which newspapers would be scanned.

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